Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (currently amended) A method for displaying digital content comprising:

using a first tuner to access a first transport stream associated with a first frequency;

displaying in a main picture area of a display screen, a first program channel associated with said first transport stream;

using a second tuner during spare periods of said second tuner to access a second transport stream associated with a second frequency for a second program channel, wherein said second transport stream comprises program information operable to identify program related information for subsequent decoding thereof, and wherein the program information comprises a program identifier and is operable to enable demultiplexing of said second program channel from said second transport stream;

caching said program information into a memory buffer operable to reduce a delay in rendering time of said second program channel when said second program channel is selected; and

upon selection of said second program channel, recalling said program

information from said memory buffer for decoding thereof operable to provide a fast channel change operation to said second program channel and display thereof by switching to said second tuner.

2.   (original) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said second tuner is normally dedicated to picture-in-picture rendering on said display screen.

3.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 2 wherein said program information comprises table information associated with said second transport stream.

4.   (original) A method as described in Claim 3 wherein said table information is derived from a program association table that is encoded in said second transport stream.

5.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 1 further comprising:

caching decoded I frames associated with said second program channel.

6.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 1 further comprising:

using said second tuner to scan through a plurality of frequencies over

time to access a plurality of transport streams;

decoding digital content associated with said plurality of transport streams resulting in decoded digital content; and

caching a plurality of portions of said decoded digital content in a plurality of memory buffers associated therewith.

7.   (original) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said first transport stream and said second transport stream are the same and wherein said first frequency and said second frequency are the same.

8.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said program information cached to said memory buffer is associated with a said second program channel, wherein said second program channel is predicted as a next channel that will be selected, wherein said prediction is based on previous channel selections.

9.   (currently amended) A method for displaying digital content comprising:

using a first tuner to access a first transport stream associated with a first frequency;

displaying in a main picture area of a display screen, a first program channel associated with said first transport stream;

using a second tuner to access a second transport stream associated with a second frequency;

decoding first digital content from said second transport stream resulting in first decoded digital content comprising first program information operable to identify program related information for subsequent decoding thereof, and wherein said first program information comprises a program identifier and is operable to enable demultiplexing of a second program channel from said first digital content of said second transport stream;

caching said first program information into a memory buffer operable to reduce a delay in rendering time of [[a]] said second program channel when said second program channel is selected;

using a third tuner to access a third transport stream associated with a third frequency;

decoding second digital content from said third transport stream resulting in second decoded digital content comprising second program information operable to identify program related information for subsequent decoding thereof;

caching said second program information into said memory buffer operable to reduce a delay in rendering time of a third program channel when said third program channel is selected; and

upon a channel change to said second program channel or said third program channel, recalling said first program information or said second program information from said memory buffer for use in providing a fast channel change

operation to said second program channel or to said third program channel.

10.   (original) The method of Claim 9 wherein said second tuner is normally dedicated for picture-in-picture rendering on said display screen.

11.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 9 further comprising:
    switching to said third tuner, wherein said switching comprises:
        using said third tuner to access said third transport stream;
        displaying in said main picture area of said display screen, said third program channel associated with said third transport stream;
        using said first tuner to access a fourth transport stream associated with a fourth frequency;
        decoding third digital content from said fourth transport stream resulting in third decoded digital content comprising third program information operable to identify program related information for subsequent decoding thereof; and
        caching said third program information into said memory buffer operable to reduce a delay in rendering time of a fourth program channel when said fourth program channel is selected.

12.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 9 further

comprising:

caching decoded I-frames associated with each program channel.

13.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 9 wherein program information comprises table information associated with a transport stream associated therewith.

14.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 9 further comprising:

using said third tuner to scan through a plurality of frequencies over time to access a plurality of transport streams;

decoding fourth digital content associated said plurality of transport streams resulting in a fourth decoded digital content; and

caching a plurality of portions of said fourth decoded digital content to said memory buffer.

15.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 9 wherein said second program information cached to said memory buffer is associated with said third program channel, wherein said third program channel is predicted as potentially a next channel that will be selected, wherein said prediction is based on previous channel selections.

16.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 15 wherein said first program information cached to said memory buffer is associated with a fourth program channel, wherein said fourth program channel is predicted as potentially a next channel that will be selected, wherein said prediction is based on previous channel selections.

17.   (currently amended) A method for displaying digital content comprising:

using a first tuner to access a first transport stream associated with a first frequency;

displaying in a main picture area of a display screen, a first program channel associated with said first transport stream;

using a second tuner to access a second transport stream associated with a second frequency;

decoding said second transport stream comprising table information associated with a second program channel, wherein said table information is operable to identify program related information for subsequent decoding thereof, and wherein the table information comprises a program identifier and is operable to enable demultiplexing of said second program channel from the second transport stream;

caching said table information into a memory buffer operable to reduce a delay in rendering time of said second program channel when said second

program channel is selected; and

upon selection of said second program channel, recalling said table information from said memory buffer for decoding thereof operable to provide a fast channel change operation to said second program channel.

18.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 17 further comprising:

decoding I-frames associated with programs of said second transport stream;

caching said I-frames to said memory buffer; and

upon said selection of said second program channel, recalling cached I-frames for use in said fast channel change operation to said second program channel.

19.   (original) A method as described in Claim 17 wherein said second tuner is normally dedicated to picture-in-picture rendering on said display screen.

20.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 17 further comprising:

using said second tuner to also scan through a plurality of frequencies over time to access a plurality of transport streams;

decoding said plurality of transport streams to retrieve a plurality of table

informations from said plurality of transport streams; and

caching said plurality of table informations to said memory buffer.

21.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 17 wherein said second program channel is predicted as a next channel that will be selected, wherein said prediction is based on prior channel selections.

22.   (original) A method as described in Claim 17 wherein said first transport stream and said second transport stream are the same.

23.   (currently amended) A method for displaying digital content comprising:

using a first tuner and a first decoder to access and decode a first transport stream associated with a first frequency, wherein said first transport stream comprises first program information;

displaying in a main picture area of a display screen, a first program channel associated with said first transport stream;

using a second decoder to decode second program information operable to identify program related information for subsequent decoding thereof, and wherein the second program information comprises a program identifier and is operable to enable demultiplexing of a second program channel from said second transport stream;

caching said second program information into a memory buffer operable to reduce a delay in rendering time of [[a]] said second program channel associated with said second program channel when said second program channel is selected; and

upon selection of said second program channel, recalling said second program information from said memory buffer for decoding thereof to provide a fast channel change operation to said second program channel and display thereof.

24.   (original) A method as described in Claim 23 wherein said first transport stream comprises said second program.

25.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 23 wherein said second decoder is a spare decoder and wherein said second program channel is predicted as a next program channel that will be selected.

26.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 23 wherein said second program information is associated with a second transport steam and wherein said method further comprises:

using a second tuner to access said second transport stream.

27.   (original) A method as described in Claim 23 further comprising:

using a second tuner and a third decoder to access and decode a second transport stream associated with a second frequency; and

displaying in a picture-in-picture area of a display screen, a program associated with said second transport stream.

28.   (original) A method as described in Claim 26 further comprising:

using a third tuner and a third decoder to access and decode a third transport stream associated with a third frequency; and

displaying in a picture-in-picture area of a display screen, a program associated with said third transport stream.

29.   (previously presented) A method as described in Claim 26 wherein said second program channel is predicted as a next program channel that will be selected, and wherein said method further comprises:

using a third tuner and a third decoder to access and decode a third program information associated with a third program channel, wherein said third program channel is predicted as a next program channel that will be selected.

30.   (previously presented)   A method as described in Claim 1, wherein said program information comprises packets transmitted via said second transport stream .